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SCIENTIFIC NOTE

DISCOVERY OF THE MILLIPED CONOTYLA BLAKEI, IN CANADA (CHORDEUMATIDA: CONOTYLIDAE)¹

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The conotylid diplopod, Conotyla blakei (Verhoeff), occurs in caves and epigean environments in West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire (Shear 1971). Kevan (1983) added Maine and reported questionable Canadian occurrence in southern Québec based on unpublished material. The location of his material is unknown, so the citation is not verifiable. Shelley (1988) could only list the milliped as potential for the province because of proximate records in the adjacent United States, but he included it in the second half of couplet 12 in a key to east Canadian species. We now confirm C. blakei from Canada and Québec based on an adult male from Parc de la Gaspésie on the Gaspé Peninsula; its gonopods conform closely to the illustrations by Shear (1971, figs. 17-18). The specimen was collected by F. Landry, 25-28 September 1991, from a pitfall trap in a conifer forest near Lake Caribou and is housed at the Centre for Lands and Biological Resources, Ottawa, While Conotyla is known from eastern Canada based on a juvenile female from Algona County, Ontario (Shelley 1988), this discovery adds a new species, genus, and family to the provincial fauna and represents a new species for the country. The genus and family are also well known from western Canada, as C. atrolineata (Bollman), C. albertana Chamberlin and Austrotyla borealis Shear occur widely in the Rocky Mountains of Alberta and British Columbia (Shear 1971, Shelley 1990).

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